### Morgan Lewis

# Building a Start-Up: Critical Steps for Success



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# Coming to Terms: Negotiating Early Stage Deals



### Overview

- Current market trends
- What is an angel investor?
- Basic terms in an angel round

### Current Trends in Venture Capital

- Pace of venture financing still improving
- Valuations still low
- VCs continue to raise the bar

### Current Trends in Venture Capital (cont'd)

- There is plenty of money available . . . but some was taken off the table
- Result: decrease in the number of funds . . . but increase in the quality of funds
- Percent of money going into early stage investments (seed/1<sup>st</sup> round) stabilized after huge decline; VCs still prefer later rounds

# Considering Angel Investment – Why Angels?

- Fills the "gap"
  - Finalize "research" or "beta product"
  - Build out management team
  - Find early customers
- Friendly terms
  - Less negotiation (valuation, founder's share)
  - Less "control" requirements

### Who are Angels?

- Old-line business owner looking to learn something new and mentor
- Successful new economy entrepreneur (or employee) that doesn't want day-to-day involvement
- Risk taker looking for high risk/high return investments

### Key Decision Making Criteria For Angels

- Credibility of the entrepreneur
  - Personal integrity
  - Willingness to seek advice
- Familiarity with industry or desire to be involved with industry
- Attractiveness of deal afraid to be shut out later on

#### SUMMARY OF TERMS OF COMMON STOCK/PREFERRED STOCK INVESTMENT

Set forth below is a summary of the material terms of an investment in XYZ Corp. (the "Company"). In this offering shares of the Common Stock/Preferred Stock are being offered by the Company to investors ("Angel Investors"). Type of Security: Common Stock or Preferred Stock (circle one) Total Capital to be Raised \$ million (before expenses): Pre-Money Valuation: Post-Financing Ownership: % Ownership Founder: Reserved for Option Pool: New Angel Investors (% = Total Capital to be Raised + Pre-Money Valuation) TOTAL 1,000,000 100.00% Material Provisions of the (1) <u>Dividend Provisions</u>. No dividends shall Common Stock/Preferred Stock: currently be paid. Voting Rights. All shares shall vote as one class, except as otherwise required by law. Information Rights: Stockholders will receive annual financial statements and a semi-annual update letter. Use of Proceeds: Obtain BSU license, recruit management team, file patents, further clinical research. Other: Purchasers will sign a Stock Purchase Agreement (which incorporates the terms of this Term Sheet) and an Accredited Investor Questionnaire.

## Common Stock or Preferred Stock?

## SUMMARY OF TERMS COMMON STOCK/PREFERRED STOCK INVESTMENT

Type of Security:

Common Stock or Preferred Stock

- Common
  - Generally, no "bells and whistles"
  - Can provide basic contractual rights
    - Information, participation, but no blocking

- Preferred
  - Can provide many protections, but these are often illusory
  - Greater say in future financings, basic operations

### Amount of Capital Raise

## SUMMARY OF TERMS OF COMMON STOCK/PREFERRED STOCK INVESTMENT

Type of Security: \$\_\_\_\_\_ million (before expenses):

- What do you know you need to do?
  - License technology/file patents
  - Attract first management team
  - Get first customers

- What cushion do you need?
  - Pay salaries for 6-12 months
  - Have leverage in negotiation with funder
  - Have credibility with early customers

### Valuation

## SUMMARY OF TERMS OF COMMON STOCK/PREFERRED STOCK INVESTMENT

Pre-Money Valuation:

\$\_\_\_\_\_

- Very difficult at early stage
  - Few true metrics
  - Often shoot too high
- Run preliminary DCF, using reasonable projections, fair discount rate

- Can look at comparables, outside sources
  - EDGAR
  - Venture Source
  - Ask other entrepreneurs

### Founder's Share

SUMMARY OF TERMS OF COMMON STOCK/PREFERRED STOCK INVESTMENT				
Post-Financing Ownership		<u>Shares</u>	% Ownership	
	Founder:		%	
	Reserved for Option Pool:		%	
	New Angel Investors (& = Total capital to be Raised + Pre-Money Valuation)		%	
	TOTAL	1,000,000	100.00%	

- Value in invention creation, balanced by where company is in the process
- Dilution can be dramatic in future venture round, regardless of angel round "protections"

### **Option Pool**

SUMMARY OF TERMS OF COMMON STOCK/PREFERRED STOCK INVESTMENT				
Post-Financing Ownership		<u>Shares</u>	% Ownership	
	Founder:		%	
	Reserved for Option Pool:		%	
	New Angel Investors (& = Total capital to be Raised + Pre-Money Valuation)		%	
	TOTAL	<u>1,000,000</u>	100.00%	

- 15-20% probably customary
- Avoid front loading too much vesting

### A Note on Notes

- For angel rounds or in-between rounds, mandatory convertible notes can work very well
- Protect early investors, don't dissuade institutional funders
- Not discussed in-depth here, but used frequently

### Summary

- VCs have returned, but remain wary
- Angels take cue from VCs but invest for different reasons
- Keep angel terms as simple as possible; close quickly